

**Town of Orange
Selectboard Minutes
July 25, 2018 6:15 p.m.**

DRAFT

Members Present:

Eric Holmgren, Sue Perreault, Lee Youngman

Others Present:

Kathie Felch, Bill Crowther, John Barnes

1. Agenda Revisions if any

Recommended Class 4 roads to turn into legal trails

The Road Foreman reviewed all of the class 4 roads in Orange and he recommended to the board with the new Municipal Roads General Permit law we turn the following class 4 road into legal trails; Strong Road .62 miles; Beard Road .57 miles; Notch Road .21 miles. The board reviewed and approved his recommendations. The board instructed Kathie to notify residents this will affect and hold a public hearing in September for public comments.

Consider signing loan documents for the 2019 International Dump Truck

The board approved the Treasurer to borrow money for the new truck being built for the town at the July 9th meeting. On a motion by Lee seconded by Sue the board voted unanimously to sign the loan documents for the 2019 International Dump Truck for \$110,000.00.

Consider authorizing Eric to come in later in the week to sign the AP warrant

On a motion by Sue seconded by Lee the board voted unanimously to authorizing Eric to come in later in the week and review the AP warrant and sign off if all looks good.

2. Discuss Homestead Declarations

There was discussion regarding the many errors made at the Tax Department this year in regards to the homestead declarations and homestead adjustments that affected taxpayers in Orange. The board was sent a letter from residents who didn't file their form on time who asked for the board to waive the penalty for late filing. On a motion by Lee seconded by Sue the board voted unanimously to waive the late filer penalties for this year only due to the confusion caused by the Department of Taxes.

3. Discuss Police Protection

Bill told the board that he contacted Barre Town Police Department to explore options for police patrolling in Orange. The Police Chief asked that we set up a time in September to discuss this further. The board asked Sue to speak with the Sheriff of Orange County to discuss the contract changes he mailed to us in June.

4. Discuss the list of residents who may go up for tax sale

The board reviewed the list of tax sales prepared by the Delinquent Tax Collector. They didn't agree that the taxpayers that are delinquent for 2017 only should go up for tax sale. They reviewed the 2 remaining on the list and wanted the tax collector to be clear that if they were put up for sale the town will not bid on them at tax sale.

They would like the tax collector to come up with a clear tax collection policy so they can understand the methodology of who goes up for tax sale and why. How many years/payments that they have to be behind before the tax sale process is initiated.

5. Discuss the plan for the roadside Ash survey

Kathie spoke with George Wild, the Tree Warden who has had a meeting with the Plainfield Tree Warden on how to proceed. He hasn't found any dead ash trees yet in the areas he has done a roadside inventory. He will be speaking to the Town's Forester before the next meeting and would like to be on the agenda to speak with the board on September 10th.

6. Accounts Payable warrants – tabled “see above agenda revision #3”

7. Other Business:

8. Adjourn

On a motion by Sue seconded by Lee the board voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:25 p.m.

Next Meeting – August 13, 2018 Public Hearing to adopt the town plan